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COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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October 26, 1992



Latercia V. Salan A.D. Salas Executive Director

Mr. Frazer Lockhart U.S Department of Energy Rocky Flats Plant Building 116 P. O. Box 928 Golden, Colorado 80402-0928

RE: BACKGROUND SURFICIAL SOILS STUDY

Dear Mr. Lockhart;

On March 11, 1992 the Colorado Department of Health, Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division (the Division) was invited to meet with representatives of DOE and EG&G to discuss a proposal to obtain background surficial soils data in support of RFI/RI investigations. To date, no further discussions have been held and a formal proposal has not been submitted.

The need for this data is significant since the sitewide' Geochemical Report Background Characterization "surficial" soils. EG&G requested that the additional work not be added to the Background Report while it was undergoing major revisions and nearing completion. The Division informally concurred with this request but expected work to proceed under a separate or associated study.

Various activities associated with Operable Units 1 and 2 have provided relevent OU-specific background soil information. However, sitewide, not OU specific, background levels should be established in the interest of efficiency and comparability.

DOE should be aware that in the absence of potentially higher background values, it may become necessary to base cleanup decisions solely on risk to human health and the environment. Therefore, the Division expects this work to proceed as an addendum to, or as an associated project of, the Background Geochemical Characterization Report.

Please establish by November 20, 1992 a reasonable date by which a formal proposal will be submitted for EPA and Division review and approval.

If you have any questions, please call Harlen Ainscough of my staff at 692-3337.

Sincerely,

Gary W. Baughman, Chief

Facilities Section

Hazardous Waste Control Program

cc:

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